SAARC Summit for Eliminating Nuclear Weapons

*190. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SAARC Summit leaders have declared their intention to make efforts for the realisation of the objectives of halting the nuclear arms race and eliminating nuclear weapons;

(b) whether Pakistan has also agreed with this resolve; and

(c) if not, what was Pakistan's reaction to the halting of the nuclear weapon programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Revision of the Twenty Point Programme

*191. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to revise the Twenty Point Programme; and

(b) if so, what are the changes which have been incorporated in the Programme and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Workers of the Border Roads Organisation caught In Snow-Storm

*192. SHRI ANAND SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of workers of the Border Roads Organisation were recently caught in a snow-storm over the Baralacha Pass and were stranded for over one week;

(b) if so, what steps were taken to rescue the stranded workers; and

(c) what is the number of casulties suffered and the number of the injured personnel ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes Sir. About 860 casual paid labourers of B.R.O. were stranded due to sudden heavy snowfall near Baralacha pass between 18th to 27th October 1987.

(b) Rescue operations were conducted by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) with the help of the Air Force and civil authorities. The Stranded workers were moved to places of safety in near-by camps of BRO and Snow & Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) besides evacuation of casualties by helicopters and provision of medical treatment to affected workers both in hospitals and in camps; air-dropping of cooked food packets warm clothing and medicines; undertaking snow-clearance work on war-footing (resulting in the road Baralacha-Manali being fully cleared of snow by 27th October 1987); and finally transporting the workers by road to Manali enroute to their home destinations.

(c) Killed – 3;
Injured – 79.

Dependence of the Public Sector Enterprises on Budgetary Support

*193. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD :
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has been exercised over the continued dependence of the public sector enterprises on non-plan budgetary support; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to reduce and eliminate this dependence of the public sector enterprises on such support ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Continuous improvement in physical and financial performance of public sector enterprises could only contain, reduce or ultimately eliminate their dependence on non-plan budgetary support. To bring about an overall improvement in their performance, enterprises themselves have been taking measures, from time to time, relevant to their respective operations, such as, improvement in capacity utilisation and productivity, diversification of product mix, upgradation of technology, modernisation and rehabilitation, organisation and management restructuring, encouraging worker's participation in management including drawing up of memorandum of understanding between Government and selected enterprises to achieve specific target, provision of captive power, etc. Also, with a view to removing general bottlenecks in the field of power and transport serviees which come in the way of increased production and capacity utilisation in the economy as a whole, higher priority has been accorded to Plan allocation under these sectors during the first three years of the Seventh Plan.

Survey for the exploitation of Sub-Soil Water

*194. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any detailed and scientific survey for the exploitation of sub-soil water has been completed in the country and the regions with adequate sub-soil water have been identified;

(b) if so, the names of the States with vast potential of sub-soil water; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to harness the sub-soil water potential for irrigation purposes so that over and under exploitation situations are not created ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Central Ground Water Board is carrying out systematic hydrogeological surveys in the country. An area of 23.7 lakh sq. km. has been covered by March, 1987. Ground water worthy areas have been delineated.

(b) Large groundwater resources are available in the States of the Ganga-Brahmaputra basins.

(c) Ground water is being developed through control mechanism of institutional financing, emphasis on conjunctive use and conservation measures.

Indo-Soviet venture to manufacture CTVs.

*195. DR. SHRIMATI SAROJINI MAHISHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted an Indo-Soviet Joint Venture for the manufacture of CTVs;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a glut in CTV market; and

(c) if so, what are the considerations for setting up of this Joint Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no glut in CTV market.

(c) Does not arise.

TNV Bases in Bangladesh

*196. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken up with Bangladesh Government the question of demolishing TNV bases in Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, what is the response of the Bangladesh Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bangladesh Government has consistently denied that any facilities for the TNV exist on its territory.